

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-03 DODE-00

NIC-01 PRS-01 PA-02 USIA-15 /040 W

----- 116845

R 190842Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8771

UNCLAS TOKYO 3601

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJECT: ARTILLERY FIRING OVER RT 104, OKINAWA

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION COMNAVFORJ INFO CINCPAC CINCPACFLT
COMSEVENTHFLT CG FMF PAC CAMP SMITH AMEMB TOKYO AMCONS NAHA
FM COMUSJAPAN P 180255Z MAR 75 REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE

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SUBJ: ARTILLERY FIRING OVER RT 104, OKINAWA

REFS: A. CG MCB 140650Z MAR 75 (NOTAL)

B. TELECON MAJ GEN SNOWDEN (USAFJ)/G HATCH (MCB), 17 MAR 75

1. ON 17 MAR 75, MAJ GEN SNOWDEN, C/S USFJ, MET WITH MR. KUBO,

DIR GEN DFAA, TO DISCUSS USMC FIRING SCHEDULED BY REF A.

FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS:

A. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LOWER HOUSE COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL MEASURES
FOR OKINAWA OFFICIAL REQUESTED 19 MAR 75 FIRING BE CANCELLED
BECAUSE THE NATIONAL POLICE BE UNABLE TO HANDLE LARGE NUMBER
OF DEMONSTRATORS EXPECTED. REQUEST REPRESENTS UNANIMOUS COMMITTEE
VIEW; POSITION SUPPORTED BY LDP. WHILE MR. YAMAZAKI AND MR. KUBO
CONCUR WITH THIS REQUEST, BOTH AUTHORITIES EXPRESSED VIEW THAT
USMC FIRING AT CAMP HANSEN CANNOT BE PERMANENTLY TERMINATED AND
FIRING SHOULD BE RESUMED WHEN CONDITIONS PERMIT.

B. MR KUBO EXPRESSED OPINION THAT TWO CONDITIONS MUST BE MET
POLICE PROTECTION MUST BE PROVIDED - UNFORTUNATELY DURING REMAINDER
OF MRCHN LOCAL POLICE HEAVILY COMMITTED TO COPING WITH PROBLEMS
RELATED TO ANNUAL SPRING PAOR OFFENSIVE. SECONDLY ACTIONS MUST

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BE TAKEN TO FACILITATE FUTURE POLICE PROTECTION. ACCORDINGLY,

DFAA PLANS TO COMPLETE INSTALLATION OF A BARBED WIRE FENCE TO COMPLETELY SURROUND THE CAMP HANSEN ARTILLERY RANGE. MR. KUBO VIEWS THE FENCE AS FACILITATING POLICE SURVEILLANCE OF THE AREA AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, DEMONSTRATORS WHO PENETRATE THE FENCED AREA WILL BE SUBJECT TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION UNDER SPECIAL MEASURES OF THE CIVIL LAW. FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF PROJECTED ACTIVITIES WHICH PRECLUDE IMMEDIATE RESUMPTION OF FIRING OVER HIGHWAY 104:

(1) POLICE HEAVILY COMMITTED TO SPRING LABOR OFFENSIVE FROM NOW UNTIL 27 MAR 75.

(2) INSTALLATION OF BARBED WIRE FENCE WILL REQUIRE APPROXIMATELY 20 DAYS.

(3) THE OKINAWA ASSEMBLY WILL BE IN SESSION DURING FIRST FEW DAYS IN APR.

2. MR KUBO ASSURED GEN SNOWDEN THAT THERE IS A UNIFIED VIEW OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE, THE DEFENSE AGENCY AND THE DFAA THAT THE GOJ HAS THE OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE THE FACILITIES IN QUESTION TO INSURE US USE AS REQUIRED. HE REMINDED THAT MEETING THE GOJ OBLIGATION SOMETIMES TAKES LONGER THAN THE US LIKES BUT THE GOJ HAS COME THROUGH IN MUCH MORE DIFFICULT PROBLEMS IN THE PAST (I.E., VISITS OF SUBMARINES, MOVE OF ARMY TANKS) AND HE IS CONFIDENT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO.

3. IN VIEW OF ABOVE, MR. KUBO REQUESTED USMC ARTILLERY FIRING AT CAMP HANSEN BE DEFERRED UNTIL AFTER 6 APR 75. KUBO ADDITIONALLY PROPOSED CERTAIN COUNTERMEASURES BE CONSIDERED TO ENHANCE FULL USE OF THE RANGE IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONDITIONS OF USE.

A. LONG RANGE-THE GOJ WILL CONSTRUCT A HIGHWAY 104 BYPASS ROAD. NORMALLY SUCH CONSTRUCTION WOULD TAKE TWO YEARS. DEF MINSAKATA HAS DIRECTED ACCELERATED CONSTRUCTION SO THAT PROJECT WILL BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT ONE YEAR.

B. SHORT RANGE-USMC SHOULD STUDY FEASIBILITY OF SHORTER RANGE FIRING FROM TEMPORARY GUN POSITIONS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF HIGHWAY 104. IN THIS REGARD THE DFAA IS PREPARED TO EXAMINE MEASURES WHICH WOULD ELEVATE FIRING POSITIONS FROM THIS NEW LOCATION.

4. IT IS THIS HQ POSITION THAT WE HAVE NO OTHER PRUDENT RECOURSE BUT TO ACCEDE TO GOJ DESIRES AND TEMPORARILY SUSPEND ARTILLERY FIRING AT CAMP HANSEN UNTIL AFTER 6 APR 75. IN THE INTERIM, SUGGEST ARTILLERY FIRING BE CONDUCTED FROM OTHER SITES IN ACCORDANCE WITH NORMAL PROCEDURES. REQUEST CNFJ POSITION ON THIS MATTER AND VIEWS TOWARD COUNTERMEASURES PROPOSED

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PARA 3. UNQUOTE
HODGSON

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